(c) As soon as the matter came to the notice of the Authorities of All India Radio, the programmes were withdrawn.

जैसलमेर जिले में रामगढ़ में उच्च शक्ति वाला दूरदर्शन प्रसारण वाला केन्द्र

750. **श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत:** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या भारत सरकार ने जैसलमेर जिले में रामगढ़ में दूरदर्शन का उच्च शक्ति प्रसारण केन्द्र स्थापित किया है; इसका निर्माण कार्य कब पूरा हुआ; और

(ख) रामगढ़ दूरदर्शन प्रसारण केन्द्र पर कुल कितनी लागत आई है एवं यह कब तक कार्य करना प्रारंभ कर देगा?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री एस० जयपाल रेड्डी): (क) और (ख) यद्यपि जैसलमेर स्थित रामगढ़ पर्वत में उच्च शक्ति टी०वी० ट्रांसमीटर (उ०श०ट्रां०) के स्थापना कार्य को 1993 में पूरा कर लिया गया था तथापि, परियोजना के प्रचालन एवं अनुरक्षण हेतु स्टाफ की मंजूरी न मिलने के कारण उक्त ट्रांसमीटर को चालू नहीं किया जा सका। अक्तूबर, 1997 तक उक्त परियोजना पर कुल 759.37 लाख रुपये व्यय हुआ है। उच्च शक्ति ट्रांसमीटर को चालू करना सक्षम प्राधिकारी से स्टाफ की मंजूरी मिलने पर निर्भर करेगा।

Grievances of Small and Regional Language Newspapers

751. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the grievances of the small and regional language newspapers in regard to the newsprint policy in general;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to reverse their policy regarding imposition of increased customs duty and the anti-dumping duty; and

(c) if not, what measures Government propose to take to protect and promote small and language newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Government has not received any specific complaints from the small and regional language newspapers in regard to newsprint policy in general. However, the Indian Newspaper Society (INS) has demanded withdrawal of 10% customs duty on imported newsprint and also for dropping the proposal for imposition of anti-dumping duty. Government is still seized of the demands of INS. No final decision has been taken so far.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of LPT/HPT at Begusarai in Bihar

752. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for setting up a LPT or HPT at Begusarai in Bihar is under consideration of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when such a transmitter will be set up in the district; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) While a Low Power TV transmitter (LPT) is already operational at Begusarai, parts of the district also receive TV coverage from the existing High Power TV transmitter (HPT) at Patna and the LPT, Munger. There is no approved scheme, at present, to set up an HPT at Begusarai. Further augmentation of TV service in the area would depend upon availability of resources, other infrastructural facilities and inter-se-priorities.